

I believe that relative to the rare emergency incidences on aircraft, that the broader picture of allowing passengers to indiscriminately use cell phones in flight, could possibly constitute a bigger hazard to air safety. It has not yet been made totally clear that cell phones do not pose a potential risk of interference with the airplane's navigational equipment. Then, there is also the problem of crowd control; especially in an emergency landing or ditching when the speed of evacuating the aircraft is of primary importance. Also, as we have seen, in the case of 9/11/01, in a volatile situation passengers will recognize the need to use cell phones in those few cases where it would become crucial. In a post 9/11 world, this need would become more quickly evident to them if the situation were drastic enough to warrant such action.